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Subject: Daily News Digest, Friday, September 22
Date: Friday, September 22, 2017 10:51:34 AM
Attachments: [Daily News Digest 092217.pdf](#)

Hurricane Response:

1 — After Harvey, EPA administrator vows bold response to polluted sites around Houston, Houston Chronicle, 9/21/17

<http://www.houstonchronicle.com/news/politics/houston/article/Mayor-council-clash-over-Harvey-debris-removal-12216212.php>

Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Scott Pruitt, who has visited Texas twice since Hurricane Harvey, vowed Thursday to have "an answer" by next month for a permanent solution to clean up the San Jacinto River Waste Pits.

2 — Chemical exposure of neighbors of San Jacinto waste pits analyzed, Baytown Sun, 9/21/17

http://baytownsun.com/news/article_a10443a2-9f37-11e7-a532-23075ade4142.html

State workers are busy removing signs of Harvey's devastation across Texas. So far, 432,000 cubic feet or eight football fields worth of debris have been cleared from Texas roadways, according to Gov. Greg Abbott.

3 — Spills Reported at One of Houston's Most Toxic Superfund Sites, Texas Monthly, 9/21/17

<https://www.texasmonthly.com/energy/spills-reported-at-one-of-houstons-most-toxic-superfund-sites-after-harvey/>

One of Houston's dirtiest Superfund toxic waste sites experienced three spills in the days after the torrential rain from Hurricane Harvey. But, as has been the case with other toxic spills resulting from Harvey, the spill went unreported for weeks, until the Associated Press got a look at some aerial photos that showed dark-colored water surrounding the site as the floodwater receded.

4 — New maps show how contaminated Houston surface water was following Hurricane Harvey, Houston Chronicle, 9/21/17

<http://www.chron.com/news/houston-texas/houston/article/harvey-flood-surface-water-map-contamination-12214453.php?ipid=houstonhomepage>

New data from the Houston Department of Health and Human Services suggests that some areas exposed to Hurricane Harvey's flood water recorded higher than normal amounts of E. coli just as of last week.

5 — Harvey — and storms to come — raise worries about dam safety, Houston Chronicle, 9/21/17

<http://www.houstonchronicle.com/business/article/Harvey-and-storms-to-come-raise-worries-12219484.php>

The state climatologist is warning that Texas dams will become less able to withstand extreme weather events like Hurricane Harvey, which are expected to occur more frequently as the

earth's atmosphere and oceans warm in coming years.

6 — Army Corps to examine Harris County flood control regulations, Houston Chronicle, 9/21/17

<http://www.houstonchronicle.com/news/politics/houston/article/Army-Corps-to-examine-Harris-County-flood-control-12219313.php>

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has agreed to review Harris County's flood control regulations to gauge whether they sufficiently neutralize the flood risk posed by the region's booming development, a question that has drawn increasing scrutiny after a series of storms in recent years, capped by Hurricane Harvey, have devastated the region.

7 — Will Hurricane Harvey bring federal support for the 'Ike dike'?, Houston Chronicle, 9/21/17

<http://www.houstonchronicle.com/business/energy/article/Will-Hurricane-Harvey-bring-federal-support-for-12219570.php>

Hurricane Harvey hit the Houston energy sector hard, knocking out refineries and chemical plants for weeks, but not as hard as it could have if the storm had taken a slightly different path and sent waves and water surging straight up the Houston Ship Channel.

Other news:

8 — Protesters demand Environmental Impact Study for Bayou Bridge, LOGA reacts, KATC, 9/21/17

<http://www.katc.com/story/36426571/protesters-demand-environmental-impact-study-for-bayou-bridge-loga-reacts>

The debate over the proposed Bayou Bridge Pipeline continues. Protesters in front of the Governor's Mansion in Baton Rouge are demanding an Environmental Impact Study (EIS) be done on the proposed pipeline and are hoping to get the governor's attention to oppose the project.

9 — Water treatment plant near Gold King mine filters out sludge, KOB, 9/21/17

<http://www.kob.com/new-mexico-news/water-treatment-plant-gold-king-mine-filters-out-sludge/4610546/>

If you have wandered up in the mountains near Silverton, you may have seen a facility tucked away in the hills close to the site of the Gold King Mine spill. That facility would be a water treatment plant.

10 — Fracking rule may see jumbled comeback as court tosses case, E&E News, 9/21/17

<https://www.eenews.net/stories/1060061415>

Confusion and mixed messages dominated the conversation yesterday as court watchers unpacked a major ruling on the Obama administration's embattled hydraulic fracturing rule.

11 — Who watches WIPP?: Monitoring center a watchdog as facility recovers, Albuquerque Journal, 9/22/17

<https://www.natlawreview.com/article/epa-announces-updates-to-pesticide-label-review-manual>

At the Carlsbad Environmental Monitoring and Research Center (CEMRC), air and soil samples from near and at the WIPP site, located just 23 miles from Carlsbad, are constantly being

studied for heightened levels of radiation.

12 — Dispersant used in BP oil spill sickened workers, new federal study confirms, New Orleans Times-Picayune, 9/22/17

http://www.nola.com/environment/index.ssf/2017/09/dispersant_used_in_bp_spill_ma.html

The chemicals that were used to break up oil from the 2010 BP Deepwater Horizon blowout have long been suspected of sickening workers who responded to the disaster. Now a federal health agency is backing some of their assertions.